

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-19, 25-26, 28-30, 35, 37-64 and 66 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 25, 28, 29, and 35 are amended, claims 5, 9, 20-24, 27, 31-34, 36 and 65 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter disclosed therein. Claim 66 is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication that claims 13-14, 25-26 and 28-30 contain allowable subject matter.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Tran during the October 5, 2004 interview are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action indicates that the Japanese references cited in the May 22, 2000 IDS have not been considered because no documents were submitted. Copies of the Japanese references cited in the PTO-1449 filed along with the May 22, 2000 IDS are hereby resubmitted. Copies of the English-translated relevant portions are also resubmitted. It is respectfully requested that the Japanese references be considered.

The Office Action objects to the drawings because of minor informalities. The drawings are amended to correct the informalities. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to claim 36 because of informalities. The cancellation of claim 36 renders the objection moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 3-4, 6, 8-11, 15-16, 18, 20-24, 27 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Sakamoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,687,453); claims 1-2, 34 and 65

under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto in view of Gleim et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,146,528); claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto; claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto in view of Yoshimura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,585,934); claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto in view of Rilly (U.S. Patent No. 6,085,017); claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto in view of Escallon (U.S. Patent No. 5,799,157); claims 19 and 31-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto in view of Jung (U.S. Patent No. 5,109,284) and claim 36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Sakamoto in view of Torres et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,738,075). The cancellation of claims 20-24 and 27 render as moot their rejection. However, the rejections are respectfully traversed as applies to the remaining claims.

The Examiner agreed that Sakamoto does not disclose or suggest an image storage to be separately connected to a television set that includes a main memory, a digital circuit for retrieving still image data from the main memory, an input circuit and an output circuit, as recited in independent claims 1 and 3, or a television set that includes a tuner for receiving a broadcast program, a monitor, a mode selector for selecting between a first mode a second mode and a remote controller for controlling the television circuit in the first mode and in the second mode, as recited in independent claim 35.

The Examiner also agreed that none of the applied references cure deficiencies in Sakamoto. Thus, the features of independent claims 1, 3 and 35, and their dependent claims are patentable over the applied references. Because Sakamoto fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of independent claims 3 and 35, and their dependent claims, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested. Also, because, it would have not been obvious to combine the applied references to arrive at the claimed invention, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4, 6-8, 10-19, 25-26, 28-30, 35, 37-64 and 66 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC:TMN/ccs

Attachments:

Replacement Drawing Sheets for Figs. 2, 28 and 30
May 22, 2000 IDS and PTO-1449
Japanese References with Partial English Translations

Date: October 7, 2004

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